



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Pest Detection and Management Programs – Program Update

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Program: *Phytophthora ramorum*

Date: December 22, 2004

On December 21 PPQ issued an emergency federal order that regulates the interstate movement of plants from nurseries in California, Oregon and Washington to prevent the spread of *Phytophthora ramorum*, or sudden oak death, to noninfested areas of the United States.

Under the new federal order, California, Oregon and Washington nursery owners who ship *P. ramorum* host and associated host plants interstate must have their nursery stock inspected, sampled and tested by state officials before those plants can be transported across state lines. In addition, nurseries that ship nonhost plants interstate must undergo a visual inspection to ensure those plants are not exhibiting *P. ramorum* symptoms before interstate shipment.

The new measures address the discovery of the *P. ramorum* pathogen in nurseries in Washington, and in nurseries outside of the already established quarantined areas in California and Oregon. This action also puts new restrictions on nurseries in the quarantined areas that ship nonhost nursery stock interstate.

The new order was crafted with extensive input from and consultation with our state cooperators and industry. The order is available from the PPQ *P. ramorum* web site at: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ispm/sod/>.

The April 22 emergency order that restricted the interstate movement of several varieties of *P. ramorum* host and associated plants from California nurseries has been superseded by the December 21 order.

As of December 22, 2004, the total number of confirmed positive sites from the trace forward, national, and other survey is 176 in 22 States. The total includes three residential finds; two in Georgia and one in South Carolina; there was one environs find in New York. The breakdown per State is: AL (3), AR (1), AZ (1), CA (55), CO (1), CT (3), FL (6), GA (16), LA (5), MD (3), NC (9), NJ (1), NM (1), NY (1), OK (1), OR (24), PA (1), SC (4), TN (2), TX (11), VA (2) and WA (25).

As of December 22, 2004, participating States through out the nation have surveyed 3,130 sites and have collected 51,520 samples; 15 national survey sites are confirmed positive. APHIS - PPQ *P. ramorum* National Survey activities are reported complete in 22 of 23 Western Region States currently participating (AK, AR, AZ, CA, CO, IA, ID, KS, LA, MO, MT, NE, NM, ND, NV, OK, OR, SD, UT, TX, WA, and WY) and 18 of 28 participating Eastern Region states, including Puerto Rico (AL, CT, DE, FL, IL, IN, KY, ME, MI, MN, MS, NC, NJ, OH, PA, PR, TN, WI).